CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

formulating a discovery information query;

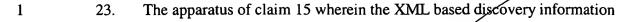
sending said discovery information query to an extensible markup language

- (XML)-based search engine to search for discovery information of at least one network
- 5 device.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising retrieving discovery
- 2 information from a discovery document on the at least one network device.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising manipulating the retrieved
- 2 discovery information.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 further comprising displaying the manipulated
- 2 discovery information.
- 1 5. / A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when
- 2 executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations comprising:
- 3 /searching for discovery information of at least one network device using an
- 4 extensible markup language (XML)-based search engine.

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- 1 6. The machine-readable medium of claim 5 further comprising formulating 2 a discovery information query to be sent to the XML-based search engine.
- 7. The machine-readable medium of claim 5 further comprising retrieving discovery information from a discovery document on the network device.
- 1 8. The machine-readable medium of claim 7 further comprising 2 manipulating the retrieved discovery information.
- 1 9. The machine-readable medium of claim 8 further comprising displaying 2 the manipulated discovery information.
- 1 10. A system comprising:
- means for searching for discovery information of at least one network device using an extensible markup language (XML)-based search engine.
- 1 11. The system of claim 10 further comprising means for formulating a 2 discovery information query to be sent to the XML-based search engine.
- 1 12. The system of claim 10 further comprising means for retrieving 2 discovery information from a discovery document on the network device.
- 1 13. The system of claim 12 further comprising means for manipulating the retrieved discovery information.

1	14.	The system of claim 13 further comprising means for displaying the
2	manipulated of	discovery information.
1	15.	An apparatus comprising:
2	a netw	ork device including XML based discovery information.
1	16.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said XML based discovery
2	information is	s in the form of an XML file stored on said network device.
1	17.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the network device is a router.
1	18.	The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the network device is a switch.
1	19.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the network device is a server.
1	20.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the network device is a computer.
1	21.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the network device is a printer.
1	22.	The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the network device manages other
2	network device	ces.



- 2 includes data describing the capabilities of the network device.
- 1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the XML based discovery information
- 2 includes data describing the location of the network device.
- 1 25. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the XML based discovery information
- 2 includes data describing the type of the network device.